Submitter Info.txt

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Public Comments on Equipment Authorizations:========

Title: Equipment Authorizations
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Comment: Preventing opensource router firmware will decrease our overall security
and increase trash in our landfills.

Vendors stop supporting old router models and without updates, they cannot perform
as a firewall. Luckily volunteers are donating their time to support these older
models.

I remember flashing updated images onto an old Linksys WRT. It was a cheap and easy
way to learn about networking, security, and computers in general. I would bet over
half of all IT people have flashed opensource distros on old routers and learned
something from it.

My father speaks of the shade tree mechanics that could fix cars, and how they are
gone now. I'm going to have to tell my kids the same about computers.

Please do not take away an affordable way to learn about computers. We can either
let people be resourceful and repurpose these old machines, or we fill landfills
with unsupported hardware and make people spend money to stay updated.

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